

Remarks

Claims 1-2, 32-33, 38 and 42-62 are pending in this application.

Independent Claims 1, 32 and 38 have been amended to further define the steps for creating the 3D model of the object from the panorama(s) in embodiments of the invention. Dependent Claims 42-62 have been added to further define aspects of the embodiments of the invention described in Claims 1, 32 and 38. These steps are described at least by paragraphs 100 to 110 of the specification in conjunction with figures 28 to 41 of the subject application. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C §103(a)

Claims 32-33 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Szeliski et al. (US Patent Number 6,157,747, herein referred to as “Szeliski”) in view of Seago (US Patent Number 5,990,900, herein referred to as “Seago”). Claims 1-2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Szeliski et al., U.S. Patent No. 6157747 in view of Luken, U.S. Patent No. 5923334 and Seago, U.S. Patent No. 5990900.

Independent claims 1, 32 and 38 have been amended to require, in pertinent part, the following or similar limitations:

“...wherein creating a three dimensional model includes:

using the computer to identify a reference plane within the transformed aligned image panoramas,
using the computer to identify an outline of the base of the object in the reference plane, and
using the computer to extrude the sides of the object from the outline of the object base in the reference plane to the height of the object in the transformed aligned image panoramas to create a three dimensional model of the object.”

None of the cited references – Seago, Szeliski, or Luken – either alone or in combination teaches, discloses or even suggests creating a 3D model by identifying a reference plane within (an) image panorama(s); identifying the outline of a base of the object within the reference plane; and extruding the sides of the object from the outline of the object base to the height of the object to create a 3D model of the object. Thus, these amendments render claims 1, 32 and 38, and the claims that depend from them, non-obvious and patentable over any combination of these references.

Applicant requests reconsideration of all existing claims, consideration of the newly added claims and a notice of allowance. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if any matters remain outstanding so that they may be resolved expeditiously. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 19-4972.

Respectfully submitted,

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